

**Central Queens Pastoral Charge  
United Church of Canada**

**July 17, 2022**

**10:30 a.m.**

**6th After Pentecost**

**Central Queens Mission Statement**

**Central Queens United Church is a loving and living community called to support the life stages of all people; celebrating joy and sharing in pain. Through faith and fellowship we are united by God's love to live and serve as Disciples of Christ.**

**Gathering for Worship**

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Birthdays & Special Occasions**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

There was a person who did such amazing things - said such wonderful things - that great crowds of people followed him everywhere. One day they ask him, "Who are you?" He said, "I am the light."

**Quiet Preparation for Worship** (Bible is brought forward during the quiet time)

**\*Introit** "Come All You People"

**MV #2**

## **Call to Worship**

There is so much to distract us, God:  
deadlines and billboards.  
Glossy magazines and colourful websites.  
The beep of an incoming message.  
The long "To Do" List.  
The friends to stay in touch with.  
The birthday parties not to be missed!  
Appointments.  
Play dates.  
Homework.  
Projects.  
Repairs.  
Finances.  
Worries.  
Parents.  
Children.  
Friends.

### **Help!**

**We come here, Holy One, to re-group and to re-gather.  
Welcome us into a time of reorganizing our  
priorities and listening  
to your call, sifting word.  
Welcome us in.**

**\*Hymn "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"**

VU #264

## **Opening Prayer**

**Holy God,  
we enter into this separate place, this separate time, to remind  
ourselves of your continuous, accompanying presence.  
Out in the world's hub-bub we can lose track of your Word,  
lose track of your care, lose track of your challenges  
and lose track of your commitment to us.  
Ground us again in your welcome.  
Wrap us again in the comforting knowledge of your love.  
Help us to know that, in you, we are home.**

With Jesus, we share in the ancient prayer...

## **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come,  
thy will be done on earth,  
as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

**Psalm 52**

**VU #777**

**\*Hymn** “This Is God's Wonderous World”

VU #296 vv. 1, 2

## **All God’s Children**

**\*Hymn** “This Is God's Wonderous World”

VU #296 v. 3

## **Call to Confession**

## **Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

**Creator, we seek the transformative power of your grace that chastens, convicts, and challenges us to change. Make us new in the pruning of bitterness and resentment, jealousy and comparison, apathy and indifference. Liberally water us in love that we would be bearers of good and abundant fruit.**

## **Assurance of Amazing Love**

Pruning makes way for flourishing. Transformation and new life wait for us on the other side of the process of growth. Through it all, God is with us.

## **Presentation of Our Gifts**

### **Invitation to Generosity**

In the act of giving,  
in compassionate sharing,  
Christ is made known,  
and the gospel comes alive.  
Let us live our Thanksgiving.  
Let us join together in our morning offering.  
We give as we are able, we give as we are called.

## Offertory

**\*Presentation of Offering** “You Nourish Us”

VU #545

## Offertory Prayer

Holy one,  
we give you thanks for all that you give to us:  
gifts of love and time, money and abilities.  
Into these plates and into this place,  
we return a portion of these gifts.  
Bless those who receive them,  
just as we are blessed in the act of sharing them. Amen.

## Listening for the Word

### Sacred Word

#### **Amos 8:1–12**

This is what the Lord GOD showed me—a basket of summer fruit. God said, ‘Amos, what do you see?’ And I said, ‘A basket of summer fruit.’ Then the LORD said to me,

‘The end has come upon my people Israel;  
I will never again pass them by.

The songs of the temple shall become wailings on that day,’  
says the Lord GOD;

‘the dead bodies shall be many,  
cast out in every place. Be silent!’

Hear this, you that trample on the needy,  
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,  
saying, 'When will the new moon be over  
so that we may sell grain;  
and the sabbath,  
so that we may offer wheat for sale?  
We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,  
and practice deceit with false balances,  
buying the poor for silver  
and the needy for a pair of sandals,  
and selling the sweepings of the wheat.'

The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.  
Shall not the land tremble on this account,  
and everyone mourn who lives in it,  
and all of it rise like the Nile,  
and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt?

On that day, says the Lord GOD,  
I will make the sun go down at noon,  
and darken the earth in broad daylight.  
I will turn your feasts into mourning,  
and all your songs into lamentation;  
I will bring sackcloth on all loins,  
and baldness on every head;  
I will make it like the mourning for an only son,  
and the end of it like a bitter day.

The time is surely coming, says the Lord GOD,  
when I will send a famine on the land;  
not a famine of bread, or a thirst for water,  
but of hearing the words of the LORD.  
They shall wander from sea to sea,  
and from north to east;  
they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD,  
but they shall not find it.

### **Luke 10:38–42**

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

### **Anthem**

### **Sermon**

### **Reflective Music**

## Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Oh God, you are our refuge, our resting place, our joy.

We come to you with our questions, our doubts, or hurts, our burdens and our delights.

We offer them to you, and to one another, that we might more securely anchor ourselves in your love, and trust more fully in your grace.

We haven't answers to all our questions.

We haven't faced to cover every doubt.

We haven't balm to heal every wounded spot.

But we trust you do.

Like Mary, we sit at your feet now.

We come to listen and learn and to grow.

Like Martha, we still have much to do. Somewhere, somehow, we seek balance in the listening

and the doing, the searching and the being.

Help us find that balance.

Hear our prayer.

For our families and friends.

For our communities of school, work, town, province and nation.

For those who are ill.

For those who are grieving losses.

For those who celebrate new births.

For those who anticipate joyful changes.

For us all, as we struggle, stumble and dance our way toward a closer relationship with you.

For all the choices that you set before us;  
for all the love with which you surround us;  
for all the good things we can do together;  
we praise you and we thank you. Amen.

### **Responding to the Word**

**\*Hymn** “Come Touch Our Hearts”

MV #12

#### **\*Benediction**

In the busyness of your lives  
may you find balance:  
balance between doing and being,  
listening and speaking,  
learning and teaching,  
a balance that most fully connects you with our loving,  
living God. Amen.

**\*Choral Benediction** “Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New” MV #115

#### **Postlude**

\*Please stand as you are able.